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STATISTICAL SERVICE

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Statistical Reporting Service, U. S. D. A. Washington, D. C. SS-230 January 19, 1962

December Closes Out A Good 1961 Crop Year

Farmers took full advantage of relatively mild early December days to push the delayed crop harvest toward completion. Snow and cold stopped field work, by the end of the month, with winter care of livestock taking most of the farmers' attention. In a few States, some corn, cotton, and other late crops still remained unharvested at the end of December. Livestock are reported as holding up well in spite of severe weather in some areas. Cold waves reaching into the deep South in late December and early January, did only limited damage to the Florida citrus crop but set back tender vegetable crops. Heavy snows in the mountain areas brought a promise of more favorable water reserves for the 1962 season.

Hay Stocks Above Average--Pasture Feed Limited

Hay supplies at the start of the 1961-62 feeding season were at record high levels as the 1961 crop (third highest of record) was combined with a large carryover of hay from earlier years. Feeding needs prior to January 1, 1962 were above average so that tonnage of hay on farms on January 1, was 3 percent below last year but 6 percent above average. Farm stocks were above average in all regions and above last year in all areas except the North Central States.

Little Damage To Fall Sown Grains

December brought the first severe winter weather to the important winter wheat areas of the Central Plains, with below normal temperatures arriving during the second week of the month and record lows at some points in the third week. Snow preceding or accompanying the cold waves gave generally adequate cover and damage to small grains was light.

Winter Vegetables Under Last Year

Production of winter vegetables is expected to be 3 percent less than last year but 6 percent more than average. Major vegetables with substantial decreases are celery and tomatoes while lettuce will also be in shorter supply. Materially larger output of carrots is expected with a slightly larger tonnage of cabbage.

Winter Potato Estimate Unchanged

Winter potato production for 1962 is estimated at 4,155,000 hundredweight, unchanged from the December 1 forecast. This production is 16 percent less than the 4,967,000 hundredweight harvested last year and 4 percent below the 1951-60 average of 4,327,000 hundredweight.

Prospective Acreage Of Spinach

A total of 8,200 acres of winter spinach for processing is in prospect for 1962 according to the Crop Reporting Board. This is 15 percent less than the 9,700 acres planted in 1961 and 12 percent less than the average of 9,280 acres planted. Acreage reductions are anticipated this year in both Florida and California.

December Milk Production Higher

December milk production, continuing at a record level, was up 3 percent from a year earlier and 11 percent above the 1950-59 December average.

Poultry And Egg Production Up

The Nation's farm flocks laid 5,163 million eggs during December--about 2 percent more

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Nov. 15 1961	Dec. 15 1961	Based on data for Dec., 1961
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.).....ct.	33.11	31.79	38.96
Wheat (bu.).....dol.	1.87	1.89	2.39
Rice (100 lb.).....dol.	5.36	5.23	6.04
Corn (bu.).....dol.	.938	.947	1.62
Peanuts (lb.).....ct.	11.2	11.4	13.0
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Butterfat in cream (lb).....ct.	60.7	61.1	75.2
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.).....dol.	4.56	4.49	5.13
Wool (lb.).....ct.	² 40.5	² 40.8	75.2
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.).....dol.	1.00	1.01	1.25
Cottonseed (ton).....dol.	52.40	51.50	62.80
Flaxseed (bu.).....dol.	3.12	3.16	3.81
Hay, baled (ton).....dol.	20.50	20.70	25.40
Oats (bu.).....dol.	.643	.659	.843
Potatoes (cwt.).....dol.	1.24	1.17	2.46
Rye (bu.).....dol.	1.05	1.05	1.48
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.).....dol.	1.63	1.65	2.48
Soybeans (bu.).....dol.	2.27	2.30	2.90
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.).....dol.	4.19	4.97	5.65
Oranges, on tree (box).....dol.	2.05	2.34	2.41
Apples, for fresh use (bu.).....dol.	2.27	2.35	2.70
Beef cattle (100 lb.).....dol.	19.90	20.50	23.80
Calves (100 lb.).....dol.	23.70	24.10	26.30
Hogs (100 lb.).....dol.	15.70	16.10	21.40
Lambs (100 lb.).....dol.	15.10	15.50	25.30
Chickens, all (lb.).....ct.	11.6	14.3	25.2
Eggs (dozen).....ct.	36.0	35.0	47.1

¹ Preliminary

² Does not include incentive payment.

than in December 1960. Increases were 13 percent in the South Central, 10 percent in the South Atlantic, and 6 percent in the West. These increases were partially offset by decreases of 3 percent in the North Atlantic and in the West North Central and 1 percent in the East North Central. Aggregate egg production in 1961 was 61,274 million eggs or about the same as produced in 1960.

January 1 Potato Stocks

Total storage stocks of potatoes held by growers and local dealers in the fall producing areas of the country on January 1, 1962 amounted to 120.9 million hundredweight, according to the Crop Reporting Board.

These stocks were 15 percent above the January 1, 1961 holdings of 105.0 million hundredweight and 12 percent above the January 1, 1959 stocks of 107.9 million hundredweight.

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1960		1961		
	Dec.	Year	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹ ..	61.1	61.0	61.9	62.1	62.0
Farm employment	5.2	7.1	8.1	6.3	5.1
Family	4.3	5.2	5.7	4.9	4.1
Hired	1.0	1.9	2.4	1.4	1.0
Index numbers (1947-49 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	156	164	171	173	175
Total personal income payments ³ ..	199	198	209	211	--
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	163	173	179	182	181
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	--	173	182	184	184
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴ ..	120	120	119	119	119
Farm commodities	89	89	87	88	88
Food, processed	109	108	108	108	109
Consumer price index ⁴	123	126	128	128	--
Food	121	120	121	120	--
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers	242	238	240	238	240
Crops	217	221	226	223	224
Food grains	204	203	217	218	219
Feed grains and hay	141	151	154	149	150
Cotton	243	254	286	280	269
Tobacco	517	500	537	530	544
Oil bearing crops	217	214	242	248	250
Fruit	248	236	228	209	217
Commercial vegetables	220	227	195	213	213
Livestock and products	263	253	252	250	255
Meat animals	298	296	297	291	299
Dairy products	278	259	274	275	273
Poultry and eggs	178	160	141	140	146
Prices paid by farmers					
All commodities	275	275	276	276	277
Used in living	291	290	291	291	292
Used in production	265	265	265	265	267
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index) ..	298	299	301	301	302
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted	613	631	635	635	635
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	81	80	80	79	79

¹ Bureau of the Census.

² Federal Reserve Board.

³ Department of Commerce.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics--any figures not available at press time omitted.

Onion Stocks, January 1

Stocks of sound onions in storage (common and cold storage) were 21 percent smaller than the holdings of a year ago. Holdings of 4,358,000 cwt. were 11 percent below average. Supplies in common storage at 4,114,000 cwt. were 20 percent below a year earlier, and cold storage stocks of 244,000 cwt. were 40 percent smaller than a year ago.

Farm Stored Feed Grains 4 Percent Under Last Year

Total tonnage of the four feed grains stored on farms on January 1 was 4 percent less than the record level of a year earlier but 24 percent greater than the 1951-60 average January 1 holdings.

Food Grain Stocks On Farms Down 16 Percent

Food grain stocks on farms dropped 16 percent below January 1 a year ago but were 2 percent above the ten-year average.

January 1 Stocks On Farms

CORN: Corn stocks on farms January 1, 1962, estimated at 3.0 billion bushels, were 1 percent below the record volume of a year earlier but 31 percent above average.

WHEAT: Wheat stocks on farms, placed at 359 million bushels, were 15 percent less than a year earlier but 2 percent above average.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan. -Nov. 1960	Jan. -Nov. 1961
Dairy Production			
Milk	Bil. lb.	1,122.9	1,124.9
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	2,037.7	1,994.9
Dry nonfat milk solids			
(for human food)	Mil. lb.	1,684.6	1,845.5
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	1,264.0	1,368.8
Cheese, American	Mil. lb.	920.0	1,063.9
Ice cream	Mil. gal.	654.7	654.9
Poultry Production			
Eggs	Billions	1,614	1,613
Federally inspected slaughter: ²			
Chickens	Mil. lb.	3,753.0	4,372.4
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	823.4	1,118.2
Poultry canned and used in other processed foods	Mil. lb.	358.1	547.9
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	568.3	601.2
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	44.8	50.6
Frozen egg	Mil. lb.	354.1	352.9
Meat Production (dressed weight) ³			
Beef	Mil. lb.	13,225	13,750
Veal	Mil. lb.	945	888
Pork	Mil. lb.	9,906	9,774
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	693	755
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	24,769	25,167

¹ January - December.

² Ready-to-cook.

³ Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

OATS: Oats stocks on farms, estimated at 694 million bushels, were 9 percent less than last year and 15 percent below average.

SOYBEAN: Soybean farm stocks, were a record high of 263 million bushels, 53 percent above last year and 89 percent more than the average for January 1.

SORGHUM: Sorghum farm stocks totaled 151 million bushels, 31 percent below January 1, 1961, but 57 percent above average stocks for January 1.

BARLEY: Barley farm stocks totaled 179 million bushels, 13 percent below 1961 but 10 percent above average.

FLAXSEED: Flaxseed stocks on farms, estimated at 6.7 million bushels, were 28 percent less than a year earlier, and 49 percent below average.

HAY: Hay on farms totaled 80.3 million tons, 3 percent smaller than a year earlier, but 6 percent more than average.

CITRUS: The 1961-62 orange crop is expected to total 127 million boxes--10.3 million boxes more than last season and 2.9 million boxes more than average.

EGGS: Eggs produced in December totaled 5.2 billion, 2 percent more than December 1960, and 3 percent more than the 10-year average for the month.

Citrus Increases Over Last Year

The 1961-62 orange crop forecast remains at 127 million boxes, 9 percent larger than last year and 2 percent above average. All States except California expect more oranges than last year.

The 1961-62 grapefruit crop is forecast at 46.6 million boxes, 8 percent larger than last year and average. Florida, California, and Arizona expect more grapefruit than last season. Nearly one-fourth of the grapefruit crop had been harvested by January 1, somewhat more than a year earlier.

The lemon crop is forecast at 17.4 million boxes, 23 percent greater than 1960-61 crop and 16 percent above average. In both California and

Arizona the quantity picked to January 1 was greater than a year ago.

The estimated production of Florida tangerines remains unchanged from December at 3.8 million boxes, down 22 percent from the previous year. Even though the crop is smaller, the quantity picked to January 1 was somewhat greater than a year earlier. About 80 percent of the tangelo crop had been harvested by January 1. The total crop is estimated at 800,000 boxes, up 300,000 boxes from last year.

Cash Receipts from farm marketings, by States, November 1961¹

State	Livestock and Products	Crops	Total
	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars
Maine	9,339	2,642	11,981
New Hampshire.....	3,932	994	4,926
Vermont	9,657	906	10,563
Massachusetts	9,168	6,215	15,383
Rhode Island	1,444	554	1,998
Connecticut	8,316	6,599	14,915
New York	52,859	14,492	67,351
New Jersey	13,599	8,107	21,706
Pennsylvania	49,845	14,550	64,395
Ohio	51,479	33,427	84,906
Indiana	57,039	45,243	102,282
Illinois	100,674	71,925	172,599
Michigan	32,166	35,082	67,248
Wisconsin	80,336	10,935	91,271
Minnesota	89,068	54,897	143,965
Iowa	186,090	52,893	238,983
Missouri	68,939	77,096	146,035
North Dakota	19,420	29,186	48,606
South Dakota	48,721	9,786	58,507
Nebraska	69,724	37,805	107,529
Kansas	49,606	38,671	88,277
Delaware	5,262	7,278	12,540
Maryland	14,090	12,971	27,061
Virginia	25,257	52,781	78,038
West Virginia	7,773	2,703	10,476
North Carolina	26,908	80,312	107,220
South Carolina	10,102	32,727	42,829
Georgia	31,252	33,555	64,807
Florida	19,616	37,841	57,457
Kentucky	26,264	58,639	84,903
Tennessee	21,267	70,426	91,693
Alabama	24,760	49,853	74,613
Mississippi	22,258	134,629	156,887
Arkansas	22,753	147,617	170,370
Louisiana	11,997	61,083	73,080
Oklahoma	29,910	22,069	51,979
Texas	83,953	178,559	262,512
Montana	28,613	17,747	46,360
Idaho	16,917	41,672	58,589
Wyoming	17,196	7,835	25,031
Colorado	41,800	31,680	73,480
New Mexico	24,976	22,352	47,328
Arizona	16,358	57,344	73,702
Utah	12,668	4,536	17,204
Nevada	5,046	1,496	6,542
Washington	18,989	32,059	51,048
Oregon	17,408	18,590	35,998
California	113,113	304,824	417,937
United States	1,707,927	2,075,183	3,783,110
U. S. Jan.-Nov.	17,710,274	13,852,226	31,562,500
Same period, year ago	17,340,272	13,452,362	30,792,634

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's
Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1960 average	\$1,052	\$408	\$644	39%
1960 November	1,065	421	644	40%
1961 October	1,054	397	657	38%
1961 November	1,045	395	650	38%

¹ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per family in 1952 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

¹ All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

Item	November 1961	December 1961
CASH RECEIPTS		
	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans ²	3,783	3,200
Livestock and products	1,708	1,500
Meat animals	1,015	
Dairy products	388	
Poultry and eggs	290	
Other	15	
Crops	2,075	1,700
Food grains	121	
Feed crops	275	
Cotton (lint and seed)	674	
Oil-bearing crops	371	
Tobacco	114	
Vegetables	127	
Fruits and tree nuts	146	
Other	247	
Government payments	212	
Grand total	3,995	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:		
	1947-49 = 100	
All commodities	176	145
Livestock and products	152	131
Crops	209	163

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ² Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.



Sheep And Lambs On Feed Down 6 Percent

The number of sheep and lambs on feed for market on January 1 was 6 percent less than last year, according to the Crop Reporting Board. The number is estimated at 4,165,000 head--246,000 head less than a year earlier.

Weather conditions to January 1 in most parts of the country were unfavorable. Forage in some of the West was snow covered during parts of December. Wheat pasture development has been slow in the Southern and Central Plains. Feed supplies were generally abundant in the Corn Belt.

Farm Employment Decline Continues

Farm work was near the low point of the year during the farm labor survey week of December 24-30. The estimated number of persons working on farms that week totaled 5.1 million. Of this number nearly 4.2 million were members of farm families. Hired farm workers were estimated at slightly over .9 million. Compared with a year earlier the total number of workers was down almost 3 percent. Family workers were less numerous by 3 percent. The December survey week again found a much smaller number of hired workers than in previous months but exceeded the 1960 period by 1 percent.

Farm Wage Rates Rise Slightly

January 1962 farm wage rates showed slight but consistent increases over a year earlier. The U. S. composite rate per hour of 93.2 cents edged about 3 percent above the 1961 average of 90.9 cents.

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